

September, December, in fungoid hardwood trees (although on Mallorca, Spain, it occurs in *Pinus halepensis* Mill.) namely *Castanea*, *Salix*, *Ulmus*, *Quercus*, *Fraxinus*, *Populus*. Characteristic of delignified hardwood stumps and logs, in which adults overwinter by deep penetration of the tissues.

S. pedicularius (Gravenhorst). A hygrophilous terricolous species sensitive to land-use change. Sporadic in riparian woods in the Avon Valley e.g. near Tewkesbury, 3.ii.1990.

S. littoreus (Linnaeus). Relatively eurytopic but sporadic. In pile of cut lavender, Broadway (SP03) 9.ix.1988; under pile of Cypress foliage, Evesham town (SP04) 12.x.1988.

S. nigripennis (Fabricius). Near Childswickham (SP03) this widespread essentially xerophilous species occurs repeatedly in early spring with ants *Myrmica rubra* (L.) and in the almost constant company of the pselaphid *Brachygluta fossulata* (Reichenbach). *A Coleopterist's Handbook* (Amateur Ent. Soc. 1954) makes no reference to any such association.— P.F. WHITEHEAD, Moor Leys, Little Comberton, Pershore, Worcs WR10 3EP.

*In the experience of most of us there is nothing exclusive about the ecological preferences of this species, which is found (usually singly) in a variety of habitats as Mr Whitehead suggests below. I have seen no sign of myrmecophily in any of our species.— A.A. ALLEN.

[The identity of a *Sepedophilus* from Little Brockhampton, Gloucs (SP03) has, as far as possible, now been established. The specimen, which was not teneral, was taken in a decaying ash log on 13.ii.1989, and was a clear bright orange throughout, apart from darkened middle antennomeres; no British *Sepedophilus* normally exhibits such coloration.

Dr R. Madge has recently ascribed the specimen to *S. testaceus* (Fabricius), of unusually pale colour. *S. testaceus* occurs widely in the general area of this specimen.— P.F.W.]

Further evidence of *Yponomeuta evonymella* (Linn.) (Lep.: Yponomeutidae) migrating into southern England.

Col. Emmet's article (*Ent. Rec.* 102: 65-69) suggesting that *Y. evonymella* is a migrant to southern England, is further supported from a large influx of this species noted by myself and other entomologists in Norfolk and Suffolk, which coincided with the widespread migration reported further south and occurring in July 1989. I have summarised this East Anglian invasion below, and would like to thank those fellow recorders who have allowed me to quote their records herein.

East Suffolk (vc25), near Beccles, 6/7 July, none, 7/8 July, approximately 190, 9/10 July, none, 10/11 July, 25, between two and seven recorded nightly until 15/16 July (N. Muddeman); St Olaves, 7/8 July massive invasion of Small Ermines, 8/9 July, less than 50 Small Ermines (late H. Jenner). These observations likely to be for *Y. evonymella*.

East Norfolk (vc27). Brundall, 6/7 July, abundant, 9/10 July, more than 200 (no trap 7/8, 8/9 July) (A.P. Foster); Burgh Common, 7/8 July, many, singletons noted up to 25/26 July (K. Saul).

West Norfolk (vc28), Magdalen, near Kings Lynn, 10/11 July, five (no trap 6/7 or 9/10 July) C. Sheppard); Ringstead, 8/9 July, one, 9/10 July, 17, then ones and twos between 22/23 and 25/26 July; Docking, 10/11 July, four, 11/12 July, three, then singletons on 12/13 and 14/15 July; Titchwell, 6/7 July, two, and 7/8 July, two (R. Skeen).— A.P. FOSTER, c/o Nature Conservancy Council, 60 Bracondale, Norwich, Norfolk NR13 5QN.

***Eupithecia dodoneata* Guenée (Lep.: Geometridae), the Oak Tree Pug, in Co. Durham.**

A single female *E. dodoneata* was caught in the Rothamsted Insect Survey light trap at Shildon, Co. Durham (Site No. 477, O.S. grid ref. NZ 239 262) on 4.v.1990. Its identity was confirmed by examination of the genitalia. This species has not previously been recorded in Co. Durham (T.C. Dunn, pers. comm.) though it is known to be locally common in parts of Yorkshire and has been noted in the bordering Watsonian vice-counties of North-west and North-east Yorkshire (Sutton, S.L. and Beaumont, H.E. (1989). *Butterflies and Moths of Yorkshire*. Yorkshire Naturalists' Union, Doncaster).

Thanks are extended to D. Kipling for operating the trap at Shildon and to T.C. Dunn for confirming the status of this species in Co. Durham.— ADRIAN M. RILEY, Dept. Entomology and Nematology, AFRC Inst. Arable Crops Res., Rothamsted Exp. Stn., Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JQ.

A dawn flight of *Mompha propinquella* Staint. (Lep.: Momphidae) and others.

Although dawn tends to be a time rather neglected by lepidopterists it can nevertheless be an occasion when certain species perhaps thought of as being locally scarce are in fact found to be surprisingly common. My appetite for the early hours was whetted one June morning when, at Friday Wood, Colchester, I chanced upon a number of *Telechrysis tripuncta* Haw. (Oecophoridae) flying along a mixed hedgerow in company with the Coleophorids *C. serratella* L. and an early *C. lineola* Zell.

During the hot spell in August 1990 and unable to sleep I instead enjoyed a dawn foray at High Woods, Colchester, and observed around twenty *Mompha propinquella* Staint. flying in a five-year old plantation of mixed trees, with a reasonable ground flora still evident. Previous to this I had only encountered this moth twice in the same area, once at dusk and once at light. Dawn may therefore be the favoured flight time for this species.— B. GOODEY, 298 Ipswich Road, Colchester, Essex CO4 4ET.